

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 PM-09 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 NEA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8741

INFO USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

S E C R E T RABAT 1665

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR MO US

SUBJECT: SECRETARY NEWSOM AND KING HASSAN DISCUSS US- MOROCCAN
RELATIONS AND EVENTS IN ALGERIA AND LIBYA

1. SUMMARY. KING SEEKS COOPERATION WITH US LIKE THAT
EXISTING BETWEEN US AND IRAN AND SAUDI ARABIA; NEEDS
JUSTIFICATION FOR US MILITARY PRESENCE WHICH SECURITY
RISK FOR HIM; WANTS US HELP TO EXPAND MOROCCAN INFLUENCE
IN MUSLIM BLACK AFRICA; DISCUSSES MOROCCAN RELATIONS WITH
ALGERIA AND LIBYA. END SUMMARY.
2. ON APRIL 10 KING HASSAN RECEIVED SECRETARY NEWSOM
AND ME FOR CORDIAL MEETING WHICH LASTED AN HOUR.
3. KING BEGAN BY EXPRESSING THANKS FOR FINE ATMOSPHERE
SURROUNDING FOREIGN MINISTER BENHIMA' S VISIT TO WASH-
INGTON. HE PARTICULARLY GRATEFUL FOR FRIENDLY ATTITUDE
TOWARD HIMSELF PERSONALLY WHICH FONMIN HAD REPORTED.
4. KING SAID HE SOUGHT COOPERATION BETWEEN US AND MOROCCO
SUCH AS EXISTED BETWEEN US AND IRAN AND US AND SAUDI ARABIA.
HE THOUGHT SAME KING OF PROBLEMS EXISTED IN ALL THREE REGIONS.
IRAN FACED PROBLEM OF SUBVERSION FROM IRAQ AND SOVIET PRESSURE;
SAUDI ARABIA HAD ITS PROBLEMS WITH RADICAL ARABS AND EFFECTS
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OF MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT; MOROCCO FACED SUBVERSION BY LIBYA AND UNCERTAINTY CONCERNING ALGERI' S INTENTIONS. US HAD " CROSSROADS" IN TEHRAN AND RIYADH; HE WOULD LIKE IT TO HAVE SIMILAR " CROSSROAD" IN RABAT.

5. HE HAD TOLD AMBASSADOR MURPHY THAT US AND MOROCCO COULD BE CASUAL ACQUAINTANCES, FRIENDS, OR ASSOCIATES AND THAT HE GREATLY PREFERRED LATTER. MURPHY HAD SAID HE HAD NO AUTHORITY BUT WAS SURE PRESIDENT PREFERRED LATTER CATEGORY AS WELL.

6. TURNING TO US MILITARY FACILITIES IN MOROCCO, KING SAID HE WAS NOT AMONG THOSE WHO SAY " GO HOME" TO AMERICANS. NONETHELESS HE HAD NOTHING TO JUSTIFY TO MOROCCAN MAN IN STREET US MILITARY PRESENCE, WHICH DID NOT BENEFIT MOROCCO DIRECTLY. IF THIS PRESENCE COULD BE RELATED TO MEANINGFUL GLOBAL AID PROGRAM, MAN IN STREET MIGHT EVEN SAY GIVE AMERICAN MORE BASES IF THEY WANT. AS IT WAS, HOWEVER, FACILITIES WERE " SECURITY RISK" FOR KING.

7. KING WENT ON TO SAY HE DID NOT WISH MOROCCO TO REMAIN IN PRESENT " NARROW JACKET." MOSLEM COUNTRIES OF BLACK AFRICA HAD RELIGIOUS INTEREST IN MOROCCO AND IN HIM PERSONALLY. HE WOULD LIKE TO EXPAND MOROCCAN INFLUENCE IN THOSE COUNTRIES TO COUNTER COLONIALIST FRENCH INFLUENCE AND THAT OF ALGERIA. HE WOULD LIKE TO SEND BOOKS, DOCTORS AND TEACHERS. IF HE HAD FORTY YEARS OF PEACE AND THE MONEY THAT ALGERIA HAD, HE COULD TRANSFORM MOSLEM BLACK AFRICA INTO AREA WHICH WOULD LOOK TOWARD MOROCCO, A DEVELOPMENT WHICH HE BELIEVED WOULD BE IN US INTEREST. HOWEVER, HE DID NOT HAVE RESOURCES FOR THIS ENTERPRISE AND WANTED US HELP.

8. KING SAID HE REALIZED EXECUTIVE BRANCH HAD PROBLEMS WITH CONGRESSIONAL RESTRICTIONS BUT BELIEVED PRESIDENT COULD DIVIDE TOTAL AMOUNT OF FUNDS PROVIDED BY CONGRESS FOR FOREIGN ASSISTANCE AS HE SAW FIT.

9. NEWSOM SAID HE GRATEFUL TO KING FOR RECEIVING HIM. RECEPTION WE HAD GIVEN BENHIMA IN WASHINGTON AND NEWSOM' S PRESENCE HERE REVEALED OUR CONTINUING SUPPORT FOR KING HASSAN AND OUR BEST WISHES FOR HIS EFFORTS IN PROMOTING DEVELOPMENT AND STABILITY OF MOROCCO. OUR ATTITUDE TOWARD MOROCCO AROSE FROM PAST TRADITION OF FRIENDLY RELATIONS,
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FROM MOROCCO' S STRATEGIC LOCATION, AND FROM OUR GENERAL ACCORD

WITH THE POLICIES OF KING HASSAN.

10. USG HAD SOUGHT THROUGH RECENT CONTACTS, INCLUDING MURPHY MISSION AND BENHIMA'S VISIT WASHINGTON, TO RE-INFORCE TIES AND TO CLARIFY MOROCCAN VIEWS CONCERNING RELATIONSHIP. WE NOW UNDERSTOOD KING WANTED "GLOBAL" APPROACH RATHER THAN CONCENTRATION ON ARRANGEMENTS AT KENITRA. WE ACCEPTED THIS; HOWEVER WE HAD LIMITATIONS ON OUR RESOURCES AND CERTAIN MAJOR PRIORITIES SUCH AS VIET-NAM AND ESTABLISHMENT OF PEACE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. DESPITE THIS, PRESIDENT DOES NOT WANT TO NEGLECT OUR OTHER FRIENDS, ESPECIALLY THOSE IN SUCH IMPORTANT PART OF WORLD AS NORTH AFRICA. IN THIS CONTEXT WE WISH TO DISCUSS HOW WE CAN STRENGTHEN OUR COOPERATION WITH MOROCCO. MILITARY ASSISTANCE IS A REAL PROBLEM, BUT WE WILL DO OUR BEST. WE WILL HOPE TO DO MORE IN CONTEXT FIVE YEAR PLAN. NEWSOM STRESSED TO KING THAT CONGRESS DOES MAKE SPECIFIC ALLOCATIONS OF AID WHICH CANNOT BE SUBSTANTIALLY ALTERED BY EXECUTIVE BRANCH. NONETHELESS HE ASSURED KING OF US INTEREST IN HIS SUCCESS, IN STABILITY OF MOROCCO, AND OF OUR UNDERSTANDING OF HIS PROBLEMS.

11. KING SAID THAT MOROCCO APPROVED OF US POLICY TOWARD ALGERIA. "IT WOULD BE EASIER TO CAPITALIZE ALGERIA THAN TO SOCIALIZE MOROCCO." THE MORE ALGERIA BECAME CONCERNED WITH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, THE LESS WOULD BE ITS INTEREST IN ADVENTURISM. THEREFORE EL PASO AGREEMENT WAS FINE, "BUT PLEASE DON'T FORGET MOROCCO."

12. KING SAID HE WISHED ASK PRESIDENT NIXON TO REQUEST "THAT MADMAN" QADAFI OF LIBYA TO BE LESS CRAZY. US SHOULD TELL QADAFI IT IS WITH ITS MONEY HE IS WORKING AND NOT TO WORK AGAINST FRIENDS OF US. KING ASSERTED LIBYA TRAINING OPPOSITION SUBVERSIVES FOR OPERATIONS AGAINST ALGERIA, TUNISIA, SENEGAL, IRAN, SUDAN AND JORDAN. HE HAS BUDGETED \$40 MILLION FOR THIS WORK. KING WAS CERTAIN LIBYA WOULD NOT NATIONALIZE US OIL INTERESTS SINCE IT COULD NOT OPERATE OIL INDUSTRY
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